

1 HONORABLE RICHARD A. JONES
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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

10 EDWARD STROMAN and ANNETTE
11 STROMAN, wife and husband, and the
marital community comprised thereof,

12 Plaintiffs,

13 v.

14 STATE FARM FIRE AND CASUALTY
15 COMPANY, *et al.*,

16 Defendants.

CASE NO. C18-1297 RAJ
ORDER

18 This matter comes before the Court on Plaintiffs' Motion to Seal. Dkt. # 39.
19 Defendant State Farm Fire and Casualty Company ("State Farm") opposes, and Plaintiffs
20 have filed a Reply. Dkt. ## 42, 43. For the reasons that follow, the Court **GRANTS**
21 Plaintiffs' Motion to Seal.

22 "There is a strong presumption of public access to the court's files." Western
23 District of Washington Local Civil Rule ("LCR") 5(g). A "good cause" showing under
24 Rule 26(c) will suffice to keep sealed records attached to non-dispositive motions.
25 *Kamakana v. City & County of Honolulu*, 447 F.3d 1172, 1180 (9th Cir. 2006) (internal
26 citations omitted).

1 The Court finds that Plaintiffs have made the requisite showing to support the
2 sealing of these documents. Plaintiffs seek to maintain under seal certain documents
3 related to their settlement with previous Defendant JC Services. Dkt. # 39. State Farm
4 opposes, but Plaintiffs have shown that they have designated the majority of these
5 documents “CONFIDENTIAL” and that the documents all relate to settlement
6 communications. Plaintiffs have an important interest in not unnecessarily publicizing
7 the terms of their settlement with JC Services through a public court filing and this
8 interest is not outweighed by the public interest in knowing this information. Plaintiffs
9 have also apparently sought to minimize the amount of information kept under seal,
10 seeking to file only select documents under seal, and filing public versions of the
11 remaining documents and Joint Status Report.

12 The Court accordingly **GRANTS** Plaintiffs' Motion to Seal. Dkt. # 39. Exhibits
13 A, C, 1, 3-5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 14, 15 and 22 to the Joint Status Report (Dkt. # 40) shall remain
14 under seal.

15 Dated this 24th day of June, 2019.

Richard D. Jones

The Honorable Richard A. Jones
United States District Judge

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